(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) The Chief of Air Staff has not suggested downsizing of the Indian Air Force. Upgrading of the Indian Air Force is a continuous and dynamic process.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

MBT Arjun

591. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Army has directed Armoured Corps to compare Arjun with Russian-made T-90;

(b) if so, whether the tests are over; and

(c) the number of Arjun MBTs inducted so far into the Indian Army?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) Yes, Sir. Army has directed that newly manufactured Arjun Tanks be put through the field trials to ensure quality in manufacture for operationalisation.

(b) No, Sir. The tests are yet to be undertaken.

(c) Apart from 15 pre-production, five tanks from production lot are in the process of being handed over to field formations after the "Joint Resident Inspection (JRI)."

Increase in infiltration in Jammu and Kashmir

592. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the situation in Jammu and Kashmir is improving;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the infiltration in the valley has increased since January, 2004; and

(d) if so, the reasons for improvement of the situation in the valley?